In re Appln. of Soon-hac Hong
Application No. 10/764,660
Response to Final Office Action of October 11, 2007

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of controlling a menu of a digital camera with a plurality of operation modes wherein one of said operation modes is in use, the method comprising:

counting a number of times each menu item has been used in each of the plurality of operation modes;

determining a number of uses value for each menu item by totaling the number of times each menu item has been used across the plurality of operation modes;

comparing [[a]] the number of uses value for each menu item to a reference number;

determining a display order of the menu items according to the operation mode in use and the result of the comparison; and

displaying the menu items according to the display order.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining whether a menu item is selected by the user among the displayed menu items;

increasing the number of uses value for the selected menu item; and

storing the number of uses value.

Claim 3 (original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein during the display order determination step, the set display order is not changed when a menu item having the number of uses which is greater than the reference number does not exist.

Claim 4 (original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein during the display order determination step, when a menu item has a number of uses value greater than the reference number, the display order of the menu items is changed according to the order of the number of uses.

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reference number can be set by the user.

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Claim 7 (original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reference number is preset to a default value.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reference number and menu order may be different for different ~~operating~~ operation modes.

Claim 9 (original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first displayed menu item is initially active during the display operation.

Claim 10 (original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the stored number of uses values may be altered by the user.

Claim 11 (original): The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the menu order is immediately updated after a menu item is selected.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A method of controlling a menu having a plurality of menu items with a static display order of a digital camera with a plurality of operation modes wherein one of said operation modes is in use, the method comprising:

comparing the number of uses of the menu items to be displayed with a reference number;

determining whether a menu item will be initially active from among the menu items to be displayed according to the operation mode in use and the result of the comparison step; and

displaying the menu items in the static display order and activating a menu item from among the displayed menu items.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 12, further comprising:

determining whether a menu item is selected by the user among the displayed menu items;

increasing the number of uses value of a selected menu item when the menu item is selected; and

storing the number of uses value.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 12, wherein the step of determining whether a menu item will be initially active further comprises:

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when there is no number of uses value of a menu item greater than the reference number, not changing which menu item is initially active.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 12, wherein the step of determining whether a menu item will be initially active further comprises:

when at least one number of uses value of a menu item is greater than the reference number, setting the menu item having the largest number of uses value as the initially active menu item.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 12, wherein the reference number can be set by the user.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 12, wherein, the reference number is preset to a default value.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The method of claim 12, wherein the reference number is different for different ~~operating~~ operation modes.

Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 12, wherein the stored number of uses values may be altered by the user.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A digital camera capable of controlling an adaptive menu <u>with a static display order</u>, the camera comprising:

an image photographing portion to photograph an object;

an image processing portion to perform predetermined image processing and output the processed digital image data;

a recording portion to store the digital image data;

a display portion to display the menu items in [[a]] <u>the static</u> display order and activate the menu items with one menu item initially active;

an operation portion to select a menu item displayed on the display portion;

a storage portion which is non-volatile and stores number of uses values of the menu items;

a plurality of operation modes wherein one of said operation modes is in use; and

a control portion to set ~~at least one of either the display order of the menu items or~~ the initially active menu item <u>among menu items displayed in the static display order</u> [[,]] according to the operation mode in use and the number of uses of the menu items.

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Claim 21 (original): The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the operation portion comprises directional movement buttons to allow selection of the menu items displayed on the display portion to the upper, lower, left, and right sides of the initially active menu item and a selection button to select the menu item.

Claim 22 (canceled)

Claim 23 (canceled)

Claim 24 (original): The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the control portion determines the initially active menu item to be the menu item with the largest number of uses value.

Claim 25 (original): The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the control portion determines the initially active menu item according to the size of the number of uses value only when a menu item's number of uses value is greater than a reference number.